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FOUR DEFENDANTS SENTENCED FOR TRAFFICKING CRACK COCAINE IN PROGRESS VILLAGE

Tampa, FL - Yesterday United States District Judge James S. Moody, Jr., sentenced HELENA JONES, age 26, to 15 ½ years' imprisonment and TOMIKI JENKINS, age 29, to 12 ½ years' imprisonment. Previously, on November 1, 2007, Judge Moody sentenced TONY JEROME HENRY, age 35, to a term of life imprisonment and EDWARD DELL, age 27, to 19 ½ years' imprisonment. All of these sentences were handed down after a jury convicted the four Tampa defendants on July 27, 2007, of conspiring to possess crack cocaine with the intent to distribute, as well as distributing crack cocaine.

At trial, evidence was presented by the United States showing that HENRY had operated two crack cocaine houses in the Progress Village area of Tampa between 1999 and 2006. The evidence further established that DELL, JENKINS and JONES assisted HENRY in trafficking crack cocaine in Progress Village, and that HELENA JONES, HENRY's wife, continued to operate one of the crack houses following his arrest on June 30, 2006.

The case was investigated by the United States Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, and the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Colleen Murphy Davis.